



How do the local sewer agencies fit into the picture? Who's responsible?

- There are 37 local sewer districts within the King County wastewater service area—they own and operate the collection systems between the neighborhoods and King County's larger pipelines. They are also responsible for billing residents for wastewater treatment.
- Sometimes sewer odors may be coming from your local system and it is the responsibility of each district to take measures to maintain their system and prevent odors. King County Sewer manholes have "METRO" on the lid.
- Look on your sewer bill to identify which local sewer district that serves your residence. Give them a call if the odors are near your house.

What you can do

Check the inside fold-out section of this brochure for contact phone numbers and tips for reducing sewer odors in your home.

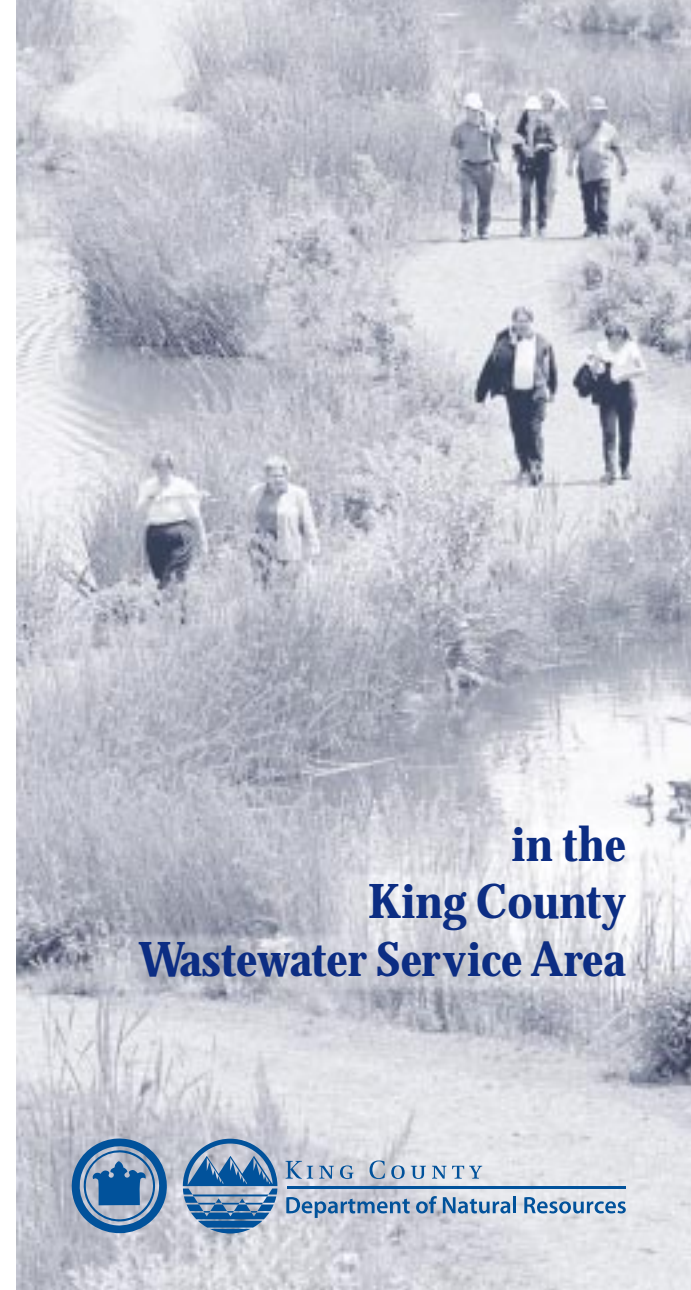
This information will be available in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities upon request.

Wastewater Treatment Division
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KING COUNTY
Department of Natural Resources

Odor Prevention



in the
**King County
Wastewater Service Area**



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KING COUNTY
Department of Natural Resources



What does the King County Wastewater Treatment Division do about sewage odors?

Controlling odors is part of the role of improving the quality of life for citizens in King County—every effort is made to use highest industry-standard technologies to control odors while conveying and treating wastewater.

- *monitoring and cleaning the conveyance system and pump stations*
- *adding chemicals or biological enzymes at certain points in the conveyance system*
- *using either wet chemical or activated carbon scrubbers in high odor areas*
- *prechlorinating and preaerating the wastewater when it enters the treatment plant.*
- *continually exploring solutions to odor issues*
- *responding seriously to citizen complaints*

What does sewer odor smell like?

- rotten eggs
- decayed or rotten cabbage
- fishy
- pungent, putrid, unpleasant
- ammonia-like

What causes sewage odor?

- decomposing organic material in wastewater forms gasses
- bacterial growth
- warm temperatures
- slow or low flows of wastewater in the pipes
- buildup of debris in pipes or pump stations
- malfunction of pumps, fans or other equipment in the system
- dumping of non permitted chemicals or substances into the sewers

How to report sewage odors

- Try to locate the source of the odor.
- For odors occurring in the home, business and local storm drains, call your local sewer district (see phone list in center foldout section).
- For odors that can't be specifically located, call the closest treatment plant (indicated in bold face in the center foldout section), open 24 hours a day.

Some odors occur naturally, such as along beaches in the summer, and can't be dealt with by any agency. Don't be discouraged, it will go away with cooler weather and rain!

Benefits/Reasons for Odor Control

The population of the King County region will continue to grow over the next few years.

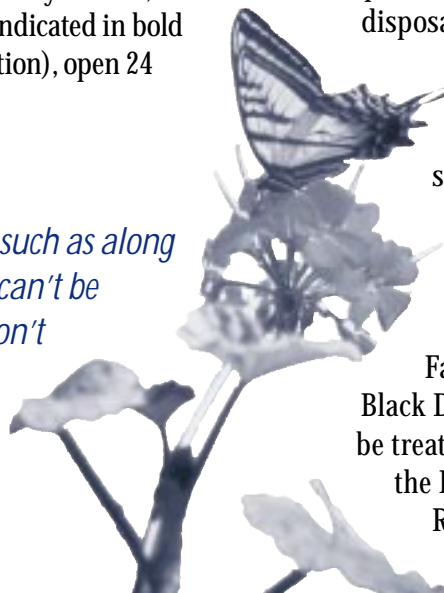
New zoning laws have led to the building of houses and businesses located near the sewage handling facilities. Being a “good neighbor” by controlling odors is part of the normal operation of every treatment facility.

At both the East Section Reclamation Plant and West Point Secondary Treatment Plant new odor control units have been installed in processing areas that never before had odor control.

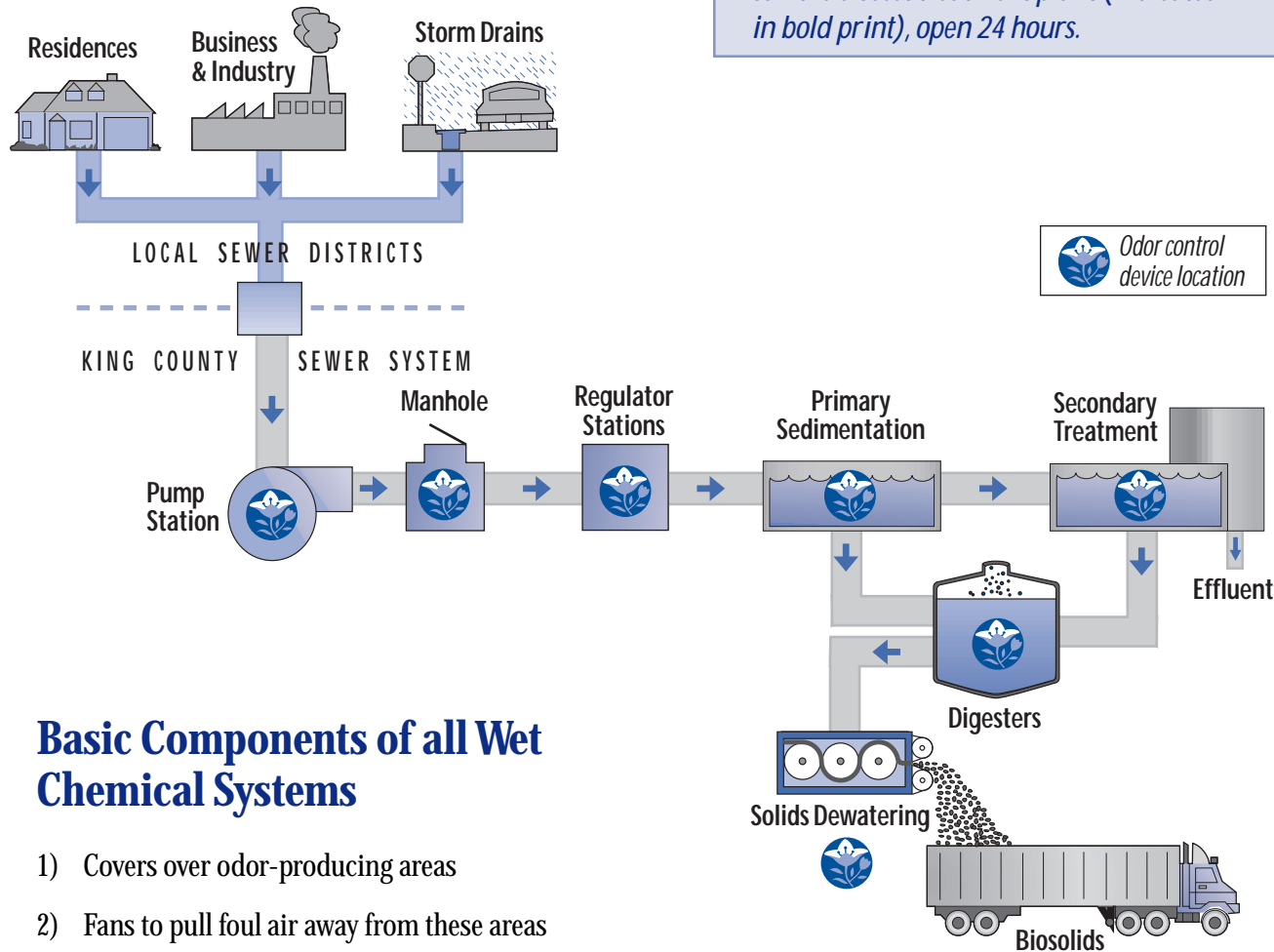
Even with the odor control units operating at optimum levels, there is a possibility for odors to occur. The W.T.D. makes every effort to respond to odor complaints and take corrective action if needed.

Responsibility

The King County Department of Natural Resources—Wastewater Treatment Division is responsible for the transportation, treatment and disposal of wastewater within the greater Seattle/King County area. With the aid of sewer lines, force mains, pumping stations and miscellaneous structures, wastewater is conveyed from areas as far north as Kenmore and Woodinville (Alderwood Water District, Snohomish County), as far east as the Sammamish Plateau near Fall City and as far south as Auburn and Black Diamond (Lake Tapps, Pierce County) to be treated at the West Point Treatment Plant or the East Section Reclamation Plant at Renton.



Odor Prevention Measures within the Wastewater Flow



Basic Components of all Wet Chemical Systems

- 1) Covers over odor-producing areas
- 2) Fans to pull foul air away from these areas
- 3) The scrubber units with various pumps, chemical tanks, instrumentation and controls



Direct your odor complaint calls to:

- For odors occurring in the home, business and local storm drains, call your local sewer district
- For odors that can't be specifically located, call the closest treatment plant (indicated in bold print), open 24 hours.

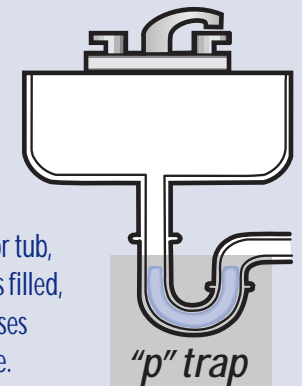
Tips for reducing household sewer odors

1 The “p” trap under every sink, tub and floor drain is a water barrier that keeps sewer odors from coming back into your house. Normal use will keep the “p” traps full of water.

2 Don't make any plumbing hook-up straight into the house side sewer—always install a “p” trap.

3 Periodically run water through drains that aren't used often such as floor or garage drains or utility sinks.

4 Make sure that all plumbing vents go outside the house. Standard plumbing per code will assure proper venting.

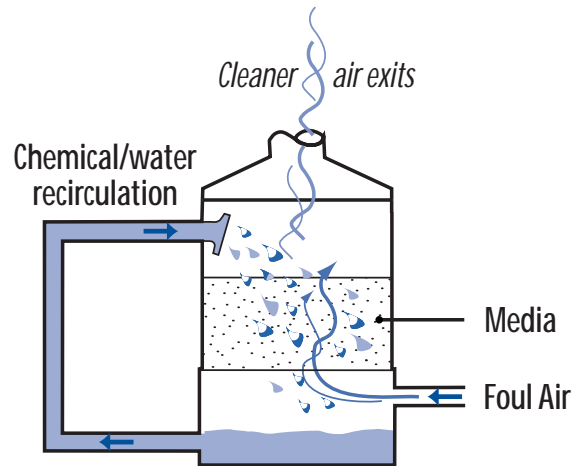


After water drains from a sink or tub, the “p” trap remains filled, thus preventing gases entering your home.

Three Odor Controlling Methods

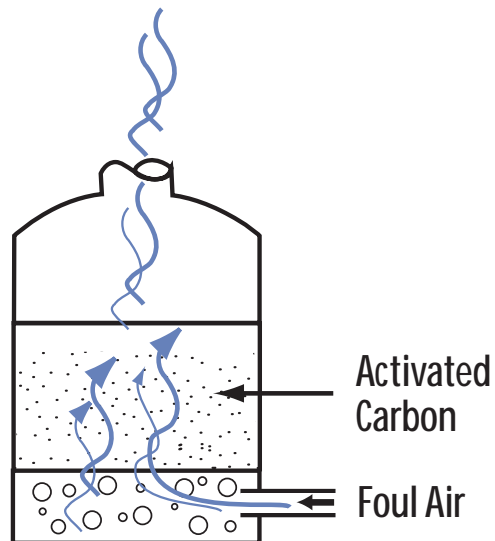
Wet Chemical Scrubber

Foul air is forced through a “rain” of a chemical and water solution. This solution absorbs the odors.



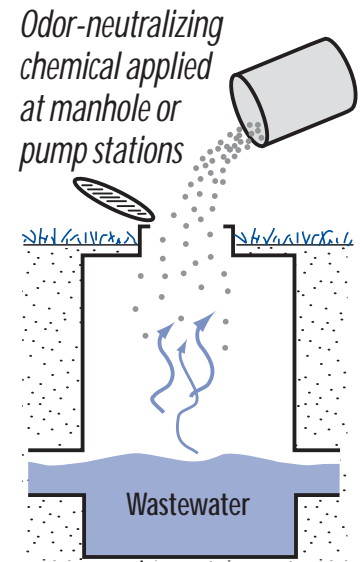
Activated Carbon Scrubber

Foul air is forced through a bed of activated carbon granules. The granules absorb the odors.



Chemical Addition to the Wastewater Flow

Chemicals are added directly to the flow of wastewater, usually through a manhole at locations where odors have been troublesome. The chemicals reduce bacterial growth and neutralize odors.



How to Contact Us

General Wastewater Treatment

Division information	(206) 684-1280
Public Outreach information	(206) 296-6519
Sewer Capacity Charge General Info ..	(206) 684-1740
Sewer Capacity Charge Billing Info	(206) 684-2027
Biosolids Recycling	(206) 684-1255
Industrial Pretreatment	(206) 689-3000
Puget Sound Air Pollution Control	(206) 343-8800

West Section Service Area:

Alderwood	(425) 787-0250
Bothell	(425) 488-0118
Brier, City of	(425) 775-5440
Highlands Sewer District	(206) 362-2100
Lake Forest Park, City of	(206) 368-5440
Mountlake Terrace	(425) 776-1161
Northshore Utility	(425) 486-3278
Val Vue/Rainier Vista/SeaTac	(206) 242-3236
Seattle Public Utilities	(206) 684-7750
Shoreline	(206) 546-2494
Skyway	(206) 772-7343
Woodinville	(425) 483-9104
Woodway	(206) 542-4443

West Point Secondary

Treatment Plant	(206) 689-3840
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East Section Service Area:

Algona	(253) 833-2741
Auburn	(253) 931-3010
Bellevue Utilities	(425) 455-6977
Black Diamond, City of	(360) 631-0351
Bryn Mawr, Lakeridge	(206) 772-1580
Cedar River	(425) 255-6370
Coal Creek Sewer District	(425) 235-9200
Issaquah, City of	(425) 837-3400
Kent, City of	(253) 859-3302
Kirkland, City of	(425) 828-1242
Mercer Island	(425) 236-3613
Northeast Lake Sammamish	(425) 868-1144
Northshore Utility	(425) 486-3278
Pacific, City of	(253) 883-2660
Redmond	(425) 556-2827
Renton #90 Water District	(425) 255-9600
Renton, City of	(425) 277-6212
Sammamish Plateau	(425) 392-6256
Soos Creek (Cascade)	(253) 630-9900
Tukwila, City of	(206) 433-0179

East Section Reclamation Plant (206) 684-2404

